

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A coating material applying method for applying a coating material to a surface of a print, ~~wherein~~ including the steps of:

applying said coating material is applied to said surface of said print by spraying said coating material thereto from a plurality of droplet spray nozzles, wherein:

an area for coating material application is determined as a particular area on said print, said coating material being applied to said particular area by spraying said coating material selectively onto said particular area; and

said plurality droplet spray nozzles are arranged transversely of said print, said coating material being applied selectively to said particular area by spraying said coating material from droplet spray nozzles corresponding to said particular area among said plurality of droplet spray nozzles.

2. (Currently Amended) A The coating material applying method as defined in claim 1, wherein said coating material is an ultraviolet-curable coating material, said coating material being cured by emitting ultraviolet light to said print after applying said coating material to said print.

Claims 3 - 4 (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A The coating material applying method as defined in claim 3 1, wherein said particular area is determined based on image data forming an image on said print.

6. (Currently Amended) A The coating material applying apparatus for applying a coating material to a surface of a print, comprising:

a plurality of droplet spray nozzles for spraying said coating material on said surface of said print to apply said coating material thereto; ~~and~~

moving means for moving said print relative to said droplet spray nozzles;

area determining means for determining an area for coating material application as a particular area on said print; and

control means for selecting droplet spray nozzles corresponding to said particular area from among said plurality of droplet spray nozzles and causing said coating material to be sprayed from said droplet spray nozzles selected.

7. (Currently Amended) A The coating material applying apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein said coating material is an ultraviolet-curable coating material, said apparatus further comprising ultraviolet light emitting means for emitting ultraviolet light to said print after said droplet spray nozzles apply said coating material to said print.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A The coating material applying apparatus as defined in claim 8 6, wherein said area determining means is arranged to determine said particular area based on image data forming an image on said print.

10. (Original) A printing machine for performing printing based on image data, comprising:

a transport mechanism for transporting a print;

coating applying means including a plurality of droplet spray nozzles arranged perpendicular to a direction in which said print is transported by said transport mechanism, for spraying a coating material on said print transported;

area determining means for determining, based on said image data, an area for coating material application as a particular area on said print; and

control means for selecting droplet spray nozzles corresponding to said particular area from among said plurality of droplet spray nozzles, and causing said coating material to be sprayed from said droplet spray nozzles selected.

11. (Currently Amended) A The printing machine as defined in claim 10, further comprising:

platemaking means for making printing plates based on said image data; and

printing means for performing printing by using said printing plates.

12. (Currently Amended) A The printing machine as defined in claim 10, wherein said area determining means is arranged to recognize an image area on said print from said image data, and determine said particular area to coincide with said image area.

13. (Currently Amended) A The printing machine as defined in claim 10, wherein said area determining means is arranged to determine said particular area as an area for coating material application on said print based on data inputted by an operator.

14. (Currently Amended) A The printing machine as defined in claim 10, wherein said coating material is an ultraviolet-curable coating material, said printing machine further comprising ultraviolet light emitting means disposed downstream of said coating applying means with respect to said direction in which said print is transported, for emitting ultraviolet light to said print.

Claims 15 – 19 (Cancelled)